

**MINUTES
OF THE
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION MEETING
July 16, 2025
10:00 AM
RED RIVER WATERWAY COMMISSION
5941 HWY 1 BYPASS
NATCHITOCHES, LOUISIANA**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Red River Waterway Commission was called to order by Chair Designee, Troy Roussell, in the Board Room of the Red River Waterway Commission Office located at 5941 Highway 1 By-Pass in Natchitoches, Louisiana.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll was called and a quorum was present. Others in attendance were asked to identify themselves and offer any comments they may have regarding the agenda. However, no comments were offered.

Present: Chair Designee, Troy Roussell, Commissioner Versa Clark, Commissioner Michael P. Deville, Commissioner Paul Fleming, Commissioner Charles R. Greer, Commissioner Ronald Lattier, Commissioner Kenneth Richardson, Commissioner Michael Simpson.

Absent: Commissioner David L. Crutchfield, II, Commissioner Jacques Goudeau, and Commissioner James F. Maxey.

RRWC Staff Members Present: Mr. Colin Brown - Executive Director, Mr. Marcus Long - Operations & Maintenance Director, Ms. Stephanie Bonnette - Executive Assistant, Mr. Luke Pearson - Real Estate Manager, Mr. Kyle Smith - Engineering Supervisor, Mr. Brian Cespiva – Staff Engineer, Mr. Greg Upton - Legal Counsel.

3. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Others Present: Ms. Katy Breaux and Ms. Camryn Willoughby with the US Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District and Mr. Robert Vinet with KSA Engineers.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD PURSUANT TO LRS 42:14

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

By motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the agenda was unanimously approved. Comments from the public were called for, however, none were offered.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

By motion of Commissioner Greer, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the minutes of the June 18, 2025 meeting were unanimously approved.

7. TREASURER'S REPORT

By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Expenditures, Financial Statements, Investment Reports, & Fund Balance Report for the month of June 2025 were unanimously approved.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Contracts

Consideration of Authority to Advertise for Construction Bids and Request to Increase the Available Funds for Construction and Budget/1North Adventure Trails Phase 1F-Additional Cross-Country Trails/RRWC Project No. 25-04/Contract No. RRW-857: By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved authorizing staff to advertise for construction bids and increasing the available funds for construction by \$300,000.00 to \$1,300,000.00 and a corresponding increase in the total reserved amount of \$350,000.00 to \$1,550,000.00.

Consideration of Approval of Change Order No. 1 (Final)/Seawall Rehabilitation Red Oak and Bishop Point/RRWC Project No. 24-02/Contract No. RRW-830: By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved change order number 1- increase in contract cost of \$12,607.23 bringing the total construction cost to \$419,426.23 and increase in the contract time by five (5) days due to additional work with tiebacks and sidewalk.

Consideration of Approval of Change Order No. 2/RRWC Project No. 24-02/Contract No. RRW-828/Brouillette Playground and Comfort Station: By motion of Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Lattier, the Commission unanimously approved change order number 1 – increase in the contract by thirty (30) days due to weather delays.

b) Land Management, Legal Affairs & Affirmative Action

Consideration of Renewal of Powerline Right-of-Way/England Realignment: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the renewal of the 20-year Powerline Right-of-Way agreement with CLECO Power, LLC for a one-time upfront payment of \$555.00.

Consideration of Request for Land Lease Extension/Lock & Dam 2/Tracts 5, 6, 8 & 9/195 Acres: By motion of Commissioner Deville, seconded by Commissioner Simpson, the Commission unanimously approved the 5-year lease extension to Big Lake Hunting Club, Inc. for \$21,450.00 for the 5-year extension term.

c) Recreation

Recreation Area Status Report – Mr. Marcus Long highlighted the prepared report provided in the meeting packet, noting that there had been 110,000 visitors to the District recreation areas during the month of June 2025. Updated maintenance items include, but not limited to:

- River levels dropped quickly. Ramp cleanup
- Dredging oxbows in southern region. Testament removing boat at Colfax RV Park launch and will begin dredging upon completion of removal
- 1North Adventure Park – feral hog captures ongoing

d) Ports – None

e) **Public Awareness & Marketing**

Consideration of Approval of Amendment No. 1/Shreveport-Bossier Sports Commission: By motion of Commissioner Lattier, seconded by Commissioner Clark, the Commission unanimously approved the funding request and approval of Amendment No. 1 with the Shreveport-Bossier Sports Commission in sponsoring a Fishers of Men Tournament in the amount of \$9,420.00.

Marketing Update - A prepared report was provided in the meeting packet. In addition, the following were discussed:

- KingKat Tournament was held in Natchitoches July 11-12 on Red River
- Yella Cat Tournament was held at Ft. Buhlow July 11-12
- Crappie Tournament in September
- Bowfishing Tournament in September
- Fishers of Men Tournament in November

f) **Personnel** - None

g) **Revenue, Banking & Budget** - None

h) **Legislative** - None

9. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- Boat Ramps and oxbows being checked by Commission staff
- Navigation was lost on the river due to dredging needs that will begin July 18th
- Lock 2 is now open up to Central Louisiana Regional Port
- Avoyelles Parish Commission seat has been appointed – Mr. John F. Earles of Bunkie, LA
- Commissioner request for site visit at 1North Adventure Trails and 12 Mile Bayou location will be scheduled for first week of August

10. **STATUS OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY/ENGINEERING REPORT** - Prepared reports were provided in the meeting packets.

- Alexandria Levee Park – ongoing progress
- Ft. Buhlow – progress continues with amphitheater. Nine pads for pavilions have been poured. Comfort Station under construction
- Brouillette Recreation Area and Comfort Station project is at substantial completion
- 12 Mile Bayou Boat Ramp and Access Road project – completed less launch due to high water. Anticipate completion in August

11. **GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT** - None

12. **CORPS OF ENGINEERS REPORT** - None

13. **RED RIVER VALLEY ASSOCIATION** - None

14. **OTHER BUSINESS** - None

15. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC** - None

17. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to conduct at this time, by motion of Commissioner Greer, seconded by Commissioner Clark, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned.


JAMES F. MAXEY
SECRETARY/TREASURER


TROY RUSSELL
CHAIR DESIGNEE